

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 PER-03 DHA-02 SSM-05 IO-13
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /090 W
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P 251604Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6317
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 3694

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, IS, US
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT KATZIR'S REMARKS AT PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE RESPONSE BY ISRAELI
PRESIDENT KATZIR TO MY REMARKS ON THE OCCASION OF THE
PRESENTATION OF MY CREDENTIALS TODAY:

2. BEGIN TEXT: IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO WELCOME
YOU HERE IN THE PRESIDENTS RESIDENCE IN JERUSALEM ON
THE OCCASION OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LETTER IN WHICH
PRESIDENT CARTER ACCREDITS YOU AS EIGHT AMBASSADOR OF
THE UNITED STATES TO ISRAEL.

3. FOR YOUR REAFFIRMATION OF THE FRIENDSHIP FOR ISRAEL
OF PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE I AM HAPPY
TO THANK YOU BOTH IN MY OWN NAME AND IN THAT OF THE
PEOPLE OF ISRAEL.

4. I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT DURING YOUR SERVICE HERE YOU
WILL SENSE THE PROFOUND FEELING FOR YOUR COUNTRY
CHERISHED BY BOTH PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT IN ISRAEL.
IT IS A FEELING ROOTED, AS PRESIDENT CARTER HIMSELF
HAS SAID, IN THE UNIQUE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR
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NATIONS, THE SIMILARITY IN THEIR SENSE OF HISTORY,
THEIR COMMON SPIRITUAL HERITAGE OF DEVOTION TO
DEMOCRACY, FREEDOM AND PEACE. IN BOTH COUNTRIES
THERE HAS BEEN A CONSISTENT AND VIGOROUS EFFORT TO
ABSORB IMMIGRANTS FROM EVERY CORNER OF THE EARTH
AND SHAPE A NEW NATIONAL SOCIETY BASED ON THE
PRINCIPLES OF LIBERTY, EQUALITY AND COMMITMENT TO

HUMAN RIGHTS.

5. ALL TOO FEW IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD ARE THE NATIONS FAITHFUL TO THIS TYPE OF OPEN DEMOCRACY. LIKE THE UNITED STATES IN ITS EARLY DAYS, ISRAEL MAINTAINS ITS DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT DESPITE THE DIFFICULTIES CAUSED BY EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL PRESSURES. THE ELECTIONS HELD LAST WEEK AND THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN ITSELF TESTIFY WE FEEL, TO THE FIRM ROOTING OF DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES IN OUR POLITICAL EXISTENCE--THAT WHICH YOU YOURSELF, MR. AMBASSADOR, DEFINED UPON YOUR ARRIVAL AS THE VITALITY OF ISRAELI DEMOCRACY.

6. HERE IN THE UNIFIED CITY OF JERUSALEM, ISRAEL'S HISTORIC CAPITAL, YOU WILL SEE JEWS, MOSLEMS AND CHRISTIANS OF VARIOUS SECTS LIVING TOGETHER IN ONE CITY AND PRAYING FOR ITS PEACE. FROM THE VERY FIRST DAY OF OUR RENEWED INDEPENDENCE, DESIRE FOR PEACE WITH OUR NEIGHBORS AND THE UNTIRING EFFORT TO ACHIEVE IT HAVE BEEN THE FOUNDATION STONES OF ISRAEL'S POLICY. I AM CERTAIN THAT EVERY FUTURE GOVERNMENT IN ISRAEL WILL SEE THE ATTAINMENT OF TRUE AND ENDURING PEACE AS ITS PRIME AND CENTRAL CONCERN, AND WILL DO ALL IN ITS POWER TO BRING PEACE NEARER. ACCORDINGLY WE WELCOME THE GOOD OFFICES OF THE UNITED STATES, INTENDED AS THEY ARE TO ENCOURAGE DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE PARTIES IN CONFLICT. INDEED, AS PRESIDENT CARTER HIMSELF HAS SAID, PEACE CANNOT

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BE LASTING UNLESS IT IS WORKED OUT BY THE PARTIES THEMSELVES.

7. EVEN IF THE WAY TO PEACE IS NOT EASY, I AM CONVINCED THAT PEACE WILL FINALLY COME, BENEFITTING ALL THE NATIONS OF THIS REGION. AD IF IT IS TO BE ENDURING PEACE, IT MUST GUARANTEE THE SECURITY OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND ITS PEOPLE. HENCE IT IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT ISRAEL NOT BE WEAKENED AND THAT WE HAVE THE EQUIPMENT TO DISCOURAGE AGGRESSION AND TO DEFEND OURSELVES.

8. I AM PROFOUNDLY GRATIFIED BY YOUR ASSERTION THAT AS AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES YOU WILL ENDEAVOR TO STRENGTHEN THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES, BENEFITTING BOTH OF THEM AND FURTHERING THE PROSPECTS OF PEACE IN THE AREA. I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF ISRAEL'S PEOPLE, WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF POLITICAL AFFILIATION OR FAITH,

ATTACH VERY GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN
ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES, SEEING IT AS A MOST
PRECIOUS ASSET WHICH MUST BE CHERISHED AND PRESERVED.

9. IT IS OUR HEARTFELT HOPE, MR. AMBASSADOR, THAT DURING
YOUR TOUR OF DUTY WE WILL MAKE OUR WAY TOGETHER TOWARDS
TRUE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

10. LET ME THEN WELCOME YOU WITH A HEARTY "SHALOM,"
MR. AMBASSADOR, AND WISH YOU SUCCESS IN CARRYING OUT
YOUR VITAL AND IMPORTANT MISSION. END TEXT
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Sent Date: 25-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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